Application/Control Number: 09/940,722

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The reply filed on May 5, 2009, is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omissions or matters:

The amendment fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.121(c) in that claim 104 has apparently been amended to depend from claim 86 rather than claim 80 without the appropriate use of underlining and strike-through. The reply does not indicate which of the amended and new claims are readable on the elected species (Office action of March 15, 2004: page 2). The Applicant has not pointed out (with specificity) the support in the original disclosure for each of the newly presented claims and claim limitations (MPEP §§ 714.02 and 2163.06). For example, support for "non-circular" (claim 1, line 10), "at least one" (claims 70, 72, and 73, line 2 of each), "ridge member on the outer inner major surface of the base member" (claim 94, line 8), and second surface "curved along the first dimension" (claim 100, line 2) for a "non-circular" body (claim 80, line 3), has not been provided.

Attention is directed to 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, Applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dave Willse, whose telephone number is 571-272-4762 and who is generally available Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Corrine McDermott, can be reached on

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571-272-4754. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

/David H. Willse/ Primary Examiner Art Unit 3738